Dear Athan Theoharis, 5/30/81

It was not possible for me to make and keep records of all the FBI files numbers I could identify. However, I do have some, incomplete as they are, and I do have some experiences with the 66 or as they are known, "admat" files. Admat = administrative matters.

In both HQ and field offices 66 is used for elsurs and misurs. I do have records of such use for informants. Most of the uses I have recorded pertain to the destruction of records.

If I ever bumped into 66-1686 I have no recollection of it. Of the closest numbers:

66-1631 is Archival authorization for destruction;
66-1731 is items from Congressional Record; and what is closest to your interest,
66-2554-7530 is authorization for transferring records into "JUNE" files in the "Special Files Room of Records Branch."

While I have no specific knowledge, I'm inclined to suspect that most of the break-in records are in the field offices, with as little as possible establishing the activity at FBIHQ.

I have no break-in records but I have a few pertaining to elsurs and misurs where a phoney informant number was used to mask the type of surveillance and sources. Makes sense that they'd handle breakins the same way.

There is no unautorized destruction, unless it is fairly recent, so why not ask for the request and authorization for destruction and the records cited as holding the allegedly destroyed information.

I have many references to the transfer of records to June and June Mail files but in no case that I recall was any file number provided. Thus, of course, also no serial. However, there must be some means of rrtrieval, a means that does not show on the Central Records record copy. The most obvious is a separate index of indices to the June records. While I have no knowledge, I'd go on the assumption that the breakins also may have been June classified. At least for request purposes.

Donald Smith is an oldtimer in FBI FOIA work. He was a supervisor there in 1976 and if my recollection is correct was used by the FBI as a witness in mt C.A. 75-1996, to testify to basic procedures and backlog. The procedure then was that each request has an immediate rough search made, used as the basis for initial response. Would these search records help you?

There are other catch-all files that are used like 66. These include Laboratory and research matters files.

Good luck,

Harold Weisberg